MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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Gelligaer Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the year

1964

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Tel:Hengoed 2241 (3 lines)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
COUNCIL OFFICES
HENGOED.

12th. May, 1965.

To the Chairman and Members of the

GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mrs. Jenkins and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1964.

The Report includes information suggested in Circular 1/65 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

The estimated population in 1964 was 35,000, a decrease of 30 during the year.

As judged by the Table of Vital Statistics, the health of the Community has not varied significantly.

Infant Deaths were slightly less than in 1963. Most of the deaths were in infants who failed to survive the first week of life.

Once more, cases of Infectious Diseases, apart from Measles, were few. There were 13 new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. Of these, 3 were in one family.

Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases, and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System numbered 161. Coronary Disease accounted for 55 deaths - 17 less than in 1963.

The number of new houses built by the Council during the year was 127, and by Private Enterprise 45. The total number of new houses erected in 1962 was 270 ; and in 1963 was 88 ; and in 1961 was 172. Thus, the past three years have seen 530 new houses erected in the area, and in 1965 another substantial number will be added to this total. But, as I comment in the Section on Housing, the public demand for homes is far from satisfied.

Tel:Merioneth 2242 (3 lines)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
COUNCIL OFFICES
DENBIGH.

12th. May, 1965.

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Health and happy home life depend in no small measure upon the family dwelling, and it is appropriate to remember that (speaking in broad figures) half the ten thousand houses in Gelligaer are sixty years old. Many of them lack the accepted amenities of hot and cold running water, bath, and indoor toilet.

Basic repairs and improvements require a skilled labour force that is not available. This is a feature of housing that causes some anxiety. In the near future, many houses will reach the end of a useful life because repairs and renovations were not executed. This unnecessary loss is something the community cannot afford.

The Council's decision to build Community Dwellings at Bargoed is regarded with great pleasure. I look forward to the time when every Ward will have at least one Community Dwelling, where the aged may dwell without loneliness and in comfort.

The Bedlinog Trunk Sewer has been commenced, and unless new engineering difficulties arise, will be completed in 1965.

The Bedlinog Tip deserves a mention, as it continued to burn, even when, on one occasion during the year, it was partly flooded.

The Luncheon Club for folks of pensionable age, organised by the Women's Voluntary Service, continued to give lunch to some fifty folk twice a week. The Council has discussed ways and means of providing dinner for the aged throughout the area. Plans are being prepared, and it may well be that in the near future, this welfare service will be established.

During the summer, the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act of 1963 became operative. Details of the work done are to be found on page 25 Certain provisions of the Act, enforceable in 1966, dealing with Sanitary and Washing Accommodation, may be difficult to comply with because of lack of space. The Council appointed Mr. Derek Rhapps to the Health Department to act as Inspector and this new work has been done very satisfactorily.

A Mass Radiography Unit of the Welsh Hospital Board visited Ystrad Mynach and Bedlinog in April and May. Five hundred and thirty folk were examined at Ystrad Mynach, and three hundred and thirty eight at Bedlinog. In this low, disappointing total, there were no new cases of tuberculosis discovered.

During the year the Council considered the setting up of a Home Safety Committee, but decided to defer this project.

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As stated in the report of the Engineer to the Rhymney Valley Water Board on page 19 , the public water supply was well maintained during the year. Raw water, prior to chlorination, from the Rhymney Bridge and Deri Reservoirs is unpure ; after Chlorination the bulk of samples was satisfactory. It is proposed to add a ' holding ' tank to the Deri Reservoir which will give an additional chlorinating time. This should give a greater safety factor to the Deri supply.

Mr. T. P. Thomas, the Senior Public Health Inspector, reports on the work of the Public Health Inspectors. As commented by Mr. Thomas, the Housing Act, 1964 which gives opportunity for the improvement of houses lacking the now accepted amenities will increase the responsibilities of all Departments of the Council.

Once more, I am grateful to the Members of the Council for their encouragement, and to the Officers for ready co-operation, and to my colleagues in the Health Department for loyal and harmonious support.

Yours faithfully,

W. BOWEN OWEN

Medical Officer of Health.

As stated in the report of the Engineer to the Rhyney Valley Water Board on page 19 , the public water supply was well maintained during the year. Raw water, prior to chlorination, from the Rhymney Bridge and Dowl Reservoirs is impure ; after Chlorination the bulk of samples was satisfactory. It is proposed to add a ' holding ' tank to the Dowl Reservoir which will give an additional chlorinating time. This should give a greater safety factor to the Dowl supply.

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Yours faithfully,

W. ROBERT OWEN

Medical Officer of Health.

GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman	-	H. V. James, J.P.
Vice - Chairman	-	Douglas Williams

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

W. H. D. Bennett
Walter Bowen
E. E. Burgess
A. E. Carey
W. H. Coleman
D. B. Cooke
John Davies
H. V. Edwards
Brinley Harris
F. J. Jenkins
Mrs. Olive Jenkins
W. R. James
J. H. Jones, O.St.J.
R. J. Jones
William Jones, J.P.
Alderman W. H. Lee
Hopkin Lewis
D. J. E. Morgan
William Poyntz
G. T. Richards, J.P.
H. L. Roberts, J.P.
K. G. Turner
Algina Williams, C.C.
Cledwen Williams

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	-	Walter Bowen
Vice - Chairman	-	R. J. Jones

W. H. D. Bennett
W. H. Coleman
D. B. Cooke
H. V. Edwards
H. V. James, J.P.
W. R. James
Mrs. Olive Jenkins
J. H. Jones, O.St.J.
Alderman W. H. Lee
William Poyntz
Douglas Williams
G. T. Richards, J.P.

CHIEF OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk of the Council	-	D. W. C. Morgan, Ll.B.
Treasurer and Accountant	-	W. Hicks, F.I.M.T.A., F.S.A.A.
Engineer and Surveyor	-	W. T. Luke, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.
Housing Manager	-	G. L. Williams, A.R.S.H.,F.V.I., M.F.B.
Omnibus Manager	-	W. H. Collins

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	-	W. Bowen Owen, J.P., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector	-	T. P. Thomas, A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.H.
District Public Health Inspector	-	E. G. Rawlings, A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.H.
Rodent Officer	-	L. J. Trollope
Clerical Staff	-	L. Chilton
Inspector (Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act)	-	D. Rhapps

GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Population	-	35, 000
Total Acreage	-	16,772
Rateable Value	-	£627,150
Product 1d. rate	-	£2,468

		Estimated Population 1964	BIRTHS			DEATHS			INFANT MORTALITY		PERI NATAL MORTALITY	
			Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Rate per 1,000 Population Adjusted	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Rate per 1,000 Population Adjusted	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 live Births	Stillbirths & deaths under 1 wk.	Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths
England and Wales		47,401,300										
Administrative County		755,480	13,468	17.83	18.19	9,084	12.02	13.82	359	26.66	458	33.39
Urban Districts		526,090	9,345	17.76	18.29	6,450	12.26	14.22	267	28.57	335	35.13
Rural Districts		229,390	4,123	17.97	18.15	2,634	11.48	12.86	92	22.31	123	29.33
Health Division.	Constituent Districts											
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban	38,910	615	15.81	17.23	569	14.62	15.20	17	27.64	19	30.45
Mountain Ash	Mountain Ash Urban	29,510	534	18.10	18.10	343	11.62	14.06	9	16.85	18	32.91
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban	36,890	782	21.20	20.78	402	10.10	13.13	20	25.58	30	37.41
Gelligaer	Gelligaer Urban	35,000	676	19.31	19.31	398	11.37	14.78	23	34.02	27	39.36
Mid	Bridgend Urban	15,180	281	18.51	19.07	164	10.80	11.88	5	17.79	5	17.54
Glamorgan	Maesteg Urban	21,590	370	17.14	17.83	215	9.95	12.34	16	43.24	21	55.41
	Ogmore & Garw U.	20,890	347	16.61	17.11	258	12.35	15.31	13	37.46	13	37.04
	Porthcawl Urban	11,880	240	20.20	23.23	153	12.88	10.82	5	20.83	7	28.69
	Penybont Rural	44,280	955	21.57	20.71	506	11.43	11.54	18	18.85	28	28.87
Neath and	Neath M. B.	30,520	507	16.61	17.27	439	14.38	15.39	17	33.53	19	35.48
District	Neath Rural	40,830	651	15.94	16.58	489	11.98	14.74	15	23.04	24	36.09
Pontypridd &	Pontypridd Urban	35,160	584	16.61	16.94	517	14.70	14.85	23	39.38	22	37.10
Llantrisant	Llantrisant Rural	27,580	553	20.05	19.05	295	10.70	13.91	15	27.12	19	33.69
Port Talbot &	Glyncorrwg Urban	9,470	215	22.70	22.02	84	8.87	13.48	8	37.21	15	66.96
Glyncorrwg	Port Talbot M.B.	51,750	987	19.07	18.88	523	10.11	13.95	25	25.33	31	30.91
South	Barry M. B.	42,460	800	18.84	19.41	457	10.76	12.05	19	23.75	27	33.17
East	Cardiff Rural	52,430	894	17.05	16.54	597	11.39	10.71	22	24.61	21	23.23
Glamorgan	Cowbridge M. B.	1,140	12	10.53	10.64	11	9.65	10.04	-	-	1	76.92
	Cowbridge Rural	20,430	370	18.11	19.38	167	8.17	13.48	8	21.62	13	34.30
	Penarth Urban	21,350	372	17.42	18.81	271	12.69	12.06	8	21.51	6	16.04
West	Gower Rural	13,440	215	16.00	17.44	146	10.86	10.86	3	13.95	4	18.35
Glamorgan	Llwchwr Urban	25,260	406	16.07	17.19	301	11.92	13.11	10	24.63	17	40.87
	Pontardawe Rural	30,400	485	15.95	18.02	434	14.28	15.14	11	22.68	14	28.40
Rhondda M. B.		99,130	1617	16.31	16.80	1345	13.57	15.61	49	30.30	57	34.52

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Population - 35,000

LIVE BIRTHS		TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Legitimate	... ...	634	330	304
Illegitimate	... ...	42	21	21
Total	... ...	676	351	325
STILL-BIRTHS				
Legitimate	... ...	10	4	6
Illegitimate	... ...	-	-	-
Total	... ...	10	4	6

LIVE BIRTHS

1955	-	672
1956	-	644
1957	-	667
1958	-	647
1959	-	648
1960	-	605
1961	-	634
1962	-	688
1963	-	675
1964	-	676

As a matter of interest I give the following figures :-

1901	-	717
1911	-	1720
1921	-	1363
1931	-	847
1941	-	733
1951	-	631
1961	-	634

INFANTILE MORTALITY

AGE AT DEATH	DEATHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITAL		DEATHS OCCURRING AT HOME	
	No.	CAUSE	No.	CAUSE
0 - 1 day	7 1 1	Prematurity Hydrocephalus Haemolytic disease of the newborn.	- - -	
1 - 2 days	2 1	Prematurity Congenital heart dis.	- -	
2 - 3 days	1 1	Broncho-pneumonia Tetralogy of Fallot	- -	
3 - 4 days	-		-	
4 - 5 days	1 1	Prematurity/ cerebral haemorrhage Prematurity	- -	
5 - 6 days	-		1	Haemorrhage
6 - 7 days	-		-	
1 - 2 weeks	-		-	
2 - 4 weeks	-		-	
1 - 2 months	-		1 1	Misadventure Malformation
2 - 3 months	-		1 1	Broncho-pneumonia Convulsions
3 - 4 months	1	Congenital abnormality	-	
4 - 5 months	-		-	
5 - 6 months	-		-	
6 - 7 months	1	Broncho-pneumonia	-	
7 - 8 months	-		-	
8 - 9 months	-		-	
9 - 10 months	-		-	
10 - 11 months	-		-	
11 - 12 months	-		-	
TOTAL	18		5	

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Deaths of Infants under one year	12	11	23
Legitimate	11	8	19
Illegitimate	1	3	4

As shown in the Table of Vital Statistics, the Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births in the Administrative County was 26.64 (27.46 in 1963)
in the Gelligaer Area it was 34.02 (38.52 in 1963)

Of the 23 deaths, 17 occurred in the first week of life.

There were 10 still-births during the year.

I append a Table showing the Infantile Mortality Rate in Gelligaer during the past ten years :-

1955	-	49 . 11
1956	-	48 . 14
1957	-	32 . 98
1958	-	27 . 82
1959	-	27 . 78
1960	-	42 . 98
1961	-	31 . 55
1962	-	21 . 80
1963	-	38 . 52
1964	-	34 . 02

The number of Infant Deaths has fallen slightly from 26 in 1963 to 23 in 1964.

As in previous years, most of the deaths occurred in the first week of life.

Eighteen of the deaths occurred in hospital and were, in the main, due to prematurity or abnormality.

DEATHS

Deaths during the year numbered 398 - Males 210 ; Females 188 ;

1955	-	449
1956	-	422
1957	-	405
1958	-	384
1959	-	390
1960	-	411
1961	-	396
1962	-	423
1963	-	425
1964	-	398

MATERNAL DEATHS

There were no deaths in which pregnancy was a factor.

In considering the Registrar General's Returns, there are points of interest. Following is a Table showing the number of deaths in each of three age groups in the past ten years. In considering the age at death, it is interesting to note how many people live beyond the allotted span of three score years and ten.

AGE AT DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
65 - 75 years	66	39
75 and over	57	78

A comparison of Age at Death for the past ten years is shown :-

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Number occurring before age of 1	33	31	22	18	18	26	20	15	26	23
Number occurring between 1 and 65 years	135	139	136	121	104	130	123	135	133	135
Number occurring upwards of 65 years	281	252	247	245	268	255	253	273	266	240

DEATHS FROM CANCER

The number of deaths from all forms of Cancer was 71.

1955	-	52
1956	-	68
1957	-	43
1958	-	64
1959	-	66
1960	-	62
1961	-	62
1962	-	68
1963	-	65
1964	-	71

CANCER OF THE LUNG

1955	-	11	-	all males
1956	-	11	-	7 males, 4 females
1957	-	7	-	all males
1958	-	8	-	all males
1959	-	9	-	8 males, 1 female
1960	-	11	-	7 males, 4 females
1961	-	15	-	13 males,2 females
1962	-	16	-	14 males, 2 females
1963	-	11	-	all males
1964	-	12	-	all males

During the year, Cancer caused the death of 71 persons. While this is not an alarming increase, it is the highest in the past ten years, and the total number of deaths from all causes is one of the smallest in the past ten years

Cancer of the lung, happily, shows no substantial increase.

During the year, there were 11 deaths from Cancer of the Breast. With all the facilities available for early diagnosis and prompt treatment, it is sad to think that advice was not sought more quickly.

DEATHS FROM VIOLENT CAUSES

Accidents in the home caused 7 deaths - 5 females, 2 males.
Accidents at work caused 6 deaths.
Motor Vehicle accidents caused 5 deaths.

The fatal home accidents were mainly in the aged.

Fatal accidents in work (all but one in colliery workers) brought death to men in the prime of life.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Disease	62	54	116
Deaths from Cancer	32	39	71
Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ...	21	24	45
Deaths from Measles	-	-	-
Deaths from Bronchitis	39	9	48
Deaths from Whooping Cough	-	--	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis	-	-	-
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	1	-	1
Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	1	5
Deaths from Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Deaths from Influenza	3	1	4
Deaths from Pneumonia	9	6	15
Deaths from other Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	14	3	17
Deaths from other Violent Causes	8	6	14
Deaths from Diabetes	3	9	12

THUS :-

	1963	1964
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases	145	116
Deaths from Cancer	65	71
Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ...	62	45
Deaths from Bronchitis	29	48
Deaths from Violent Causes	15	19

Disease of the arteries of the heart continues to be prominent :-

In 1964, 41 males and 14 females died from this cause ; as compared with
1963, 38 males and 34 females
1962, 56 males and 24 females
1961, 39 males and 12 females

While Coronary Disease continues to strike down males, it has not featured so prominently in females during the year.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AGES DISTRIBUTION

Disease	Total cases	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75 and over
Sonne Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1
Food Poisoning	5	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Measles - 116
Whooping Cough - 14

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 69 years	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
70 years and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10	3	-	-	1	-	-	-

INCIDENCE AND DEATHS

YEAR		INCIDENCE		DEATHS
1955	-	58	-	8
1956	-	33	-	8
1957	-	32	-	5
1958	-	30	-	1
1959	-	33	-	4
1960	-	30	-	6
1961	-	19	-	6
1962	-	15	-	9
1963	-	18	-	5
1964	-	13	-	1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Dr. D. J. Anderson, Medical Officer of Health of the Caerphilly and Gelligaer Health Division, kindly supplies the following information.

	SMALLPOX VACCINATION											
	0-3 mos.	3-6 mos.	6-9 mos.	9-12 mos.	1 yr.	2 yr	3 yr	4 yr	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15+ yrs.	Totals
Vaccination	-	1	-	2	46	9	1	-	-	-	3	62
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	TOTAL
Diphtheria only	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	1	6
Diphtheria/ Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	3	3	1	2	3	1	-	-	13
Triple Antigen	193	229	24	11	1	1	-	-	1	460
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Booster doses	-	42	82	17	6	54	27	3	6	237

B. C. G. Vaccination

No. of schoolchildren in the Gelligaer Area who received B.C.G. vaccination - 179

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following information relates to the Caerphilly and Gelligaer Health Division:-

ORAL VACCINE	Year of Birth	No. Vaccinated.
	1964	208
	1963	564
	1962	194
	1961	76
	1943 - 1960	146
	1933 - 1942	31
	Others	21

Given re-inforcing doses after 2 Salk injections - 4
after 3 Salk injections - 678.

HOUSING

Mr. G. Lloyd Williams, the Council's Housing Manager has supplied the following information :-

	Permanent dwellings	Temporary dwellings
By the Local Authority		
No. of houses completed and occupied during 1964	121	
No. of houses completed but not occupied in 1964	6	
No. partly completed during 1964	180	
No. sanctioned but not commenced	-	
No. completed and occupied since 1918	2001	100 - now demolished
By Private Enterprise, Building Societies etc.		
No. of houses completed and occupied during 1964	45	
No. partly completed in 1964	33	
No. for which plans were passed, but which were not commenced in 1964	70	

Number of families rehoused in 1964 - 189 - including 86 families of miners from Scotland rehoused at Trelewis.

Number of families in which Tuberculosis was a factor - 2
Number rehoused as a result of Closing Orders - 1
Number rehoused from Slum Clearance Areas - 3
Number of Old Age Pensioners rehoused - 4

Waiting list for Council Houses at the end of December 1964 -

Total number of applicants - 1,006
Families who are sub-tenants - 598
Applications from Old Age Pensioners- 154

The number of applicants for Council Houses continues to rise, despite the fact that the population of the area is not increasing. It is suggested that the Council house is light and airy, easy to run and comfortable, and thus makes a desirable home.

Applications from the 'under twenty-ones' are rising substantially. Housing very young families may well raise economic problems, but it is evident that the very young family is in our midst, whose housing needs must be met if family stability is to be maintained.

Again, the demand from the aged for suitable accommodation is rising. The Council is building Community Dwellings at Bargoed for 32 aged folk. Judging from the number of applications received, it is certain that this type of dwelling will be sought to a greater extent in the future. The Community Residence aims to give warmth and comfort, facilities for the frail in body, and speedy assistance in emergency.

The Council's loan scheme has enabled 66 applicants for Council Houses to purchase their own dwellings.

The houses being erected at Gilfach Bargoed will be ready in 1965.

The Pontlottyn Clearance and Rebuilding Scheme is proceeding.

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ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement of pollution was continued at Bargoed during the year :-

Month	Rainfall	Total Solids
January	0 . 98 ins.	13 . 00 tons
February	1 . 83 ins.	15 . 54 tons
March	4 . 21 ins	18 . 34 tons
April	3 . 28 ins.	22 . 25 tons
May	2 . 55 ins	11 . 50 tons
June	3 . 19 ins.	15 . 50 tons
July	3 . 33 ins	11 . 34 tons
August	2 . 09 ins.	9 . 74 tons
September	1 . 55 ins.	7 . 03 tons
October	4 . 12 ins.	17 . 91 tons
November	3 . 55 ins.	29 . 48 tons
December	8 . 02 ins.	28 . 31 tons

Total amount of dust collected per square mile :-

in 1964 was 199 . 94 tons
in 1963 was 210 . 33 tons
in 1962 was 197 . 93 tons
in 1961 was 229 . 17 tons
in 1960 was 294 . 53 tons
in 1959 was 361 . 56 tons.

The Power Station produces a large amount of dust ; when a period of dry calm is followed by easterly winds, then the dust which has accummulated on the surface, and the dust from the chimneys, is concentrated on the Gilfach Area.

I am indebted to Mr. W. H. James, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., the Engineer and Manager of the Rhymney Valley Water Board for the following report on the Public Water Supply :-

Bateriological Analysis of Water

	Raw Water	Treated Water
Rhymney Bridge Reservoirs		
Satisfactory	1	42
Just above limit for satisfactory result	5	2
Unsatisfactory	41	3
Deri Reservoir		
Satisfactory	13	44
Just above limit for satisfactory result	7	4
Unsatisfactory	28	0
Taf Fechan Supply		
Satisfactory	-	46
Just above limit for satisfactory result	-	-
Unsatisfactory	-	2

The beginning of 1964 saw the completion of the Gilfach Fargoed Reservoir. Although it had been completed and was in use by 9th. December 1963, it was officially opened on the 9th. May 1964. By October, 1964, work was also commenced on the new Heolddu Reservoir.

Housing site mainlaying continued throughout the year, including the Council's Gilfach Fargoed site, and the slum clearance site at Pontlottyn. Work was also started on the Board's waste water detection scheme, and by the end of the year some 12 waste water meters had been installed, four of these being within the Gelligaer Urban Area.

Supplies in general were maintained satisfactorily despite the long drought period which was experienced but, by the end of September, precautions had to be taken to conserve supplies by introducing restrictions in those districts north of Bargoed, but rainfall which occurred during the week ending 10th. October enabled these restrictions to be lifted. For the purpose of carrying out major work of trunk main connection, the Supply Board shut down supplies on their low level trunk main on Saturday, 28th. November, for a period of 24 hours. On this occasion, the Board's new service reservoirs proved invaluable in maintaining supplies throughout the area affected by this shut off.

SWIMMING POOL

The Council provides a large, open-air swimming pool in the Park at Bargoed. Every year, it is in operation from May to September. Being an open-air pool, the attendance is much affected by the weather. The summer of 1964 was occasionally ideal, and the crowds flocked to the swimming pool.

The pool is filled from the public water supply, and also 'topped up' from the mains.

For the safety of bathers, it is necessary that adequate chlorination and a high degree of clarity of the water are always present. Both features were satisfactorily provided during the year.

An Automatic Recorder of Chlorination of the pool was installed in 1961. In 1963, an Automatic Chlorinator was installed at the pool. This type of Chlorination is highly desirable, ensuring the purity of the water at all times by feeding in Chlorine as required, to maintain the Chlorine content of the water at optimum level.

This Clorinator was not working for most of 1964 - as certain vital pieces of equipment needed replacing. However, careful attention on the part of the Baths' Superintendent kept the water in the pool in very good condition.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, the County Medical Officer, for the following information :-

The following samples were taken in the Gelligaer Area by the County Sampling Officer during 1964 :-

Almonds (ground)	-	1
Baking Powder	-	1
Butter	-	1
Cake Mixture	-	3
Cheese Spread	-	6
Cod Liver Oil	-	1
Coffee & Chickory	-	2
Colouring	-	2
Cooking fat	-	1
Cream	-	1
Dessicated Coconut	-	1
Fish (canned)	-	2
Fish (frozen)	-	1
Flavouring	-	2
Flour	-	2
Fruit (canned)	-	2
Gelatine	-	1
Jam	-	1
Margarine	-	2
Meat Paste	-	1
Meat products	-	3
Milk	-	13
Mustard	-	1
Olive Oil	-	3
Pepper	-	1
Pie Filling	-	2
Rice	-	1
Salad Cream	-	1
Sauces	-	5
Soft drinks	-	2
Soup	-	1
Spices	-	1
Suet	-	3
Sugar	-	1
Sweets	-	1
Vegetables(canned)	-	5
Vinegar	-	4

MORTUARY

During the year, the Council discontinued the provision of a Mortuary.

An arrangement was made with the local Hospital Management Committee that the Mortuary at Ystrad Mynach Hospital could be used instead.

This is a good arrangement, as facilities at Ystrad Mynach Hospital are more suitable.

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For some years, the Council has maintained a Lethal Chamber - a means of removing unwanted dogs, cats, and other pets at no charge.

The number of animals destroyed annually amounts to over five hundred.

.....

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT , 1948

Action was taken under Section 47 of this Act in one instance during the year.

Prolonged surveillance and encouragement had failed to effect any improvement. The initial three months detention was renewed for a further three months to enable cleansing and decoration of the dwelling to be carried out.

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LUNCHEON CLUB

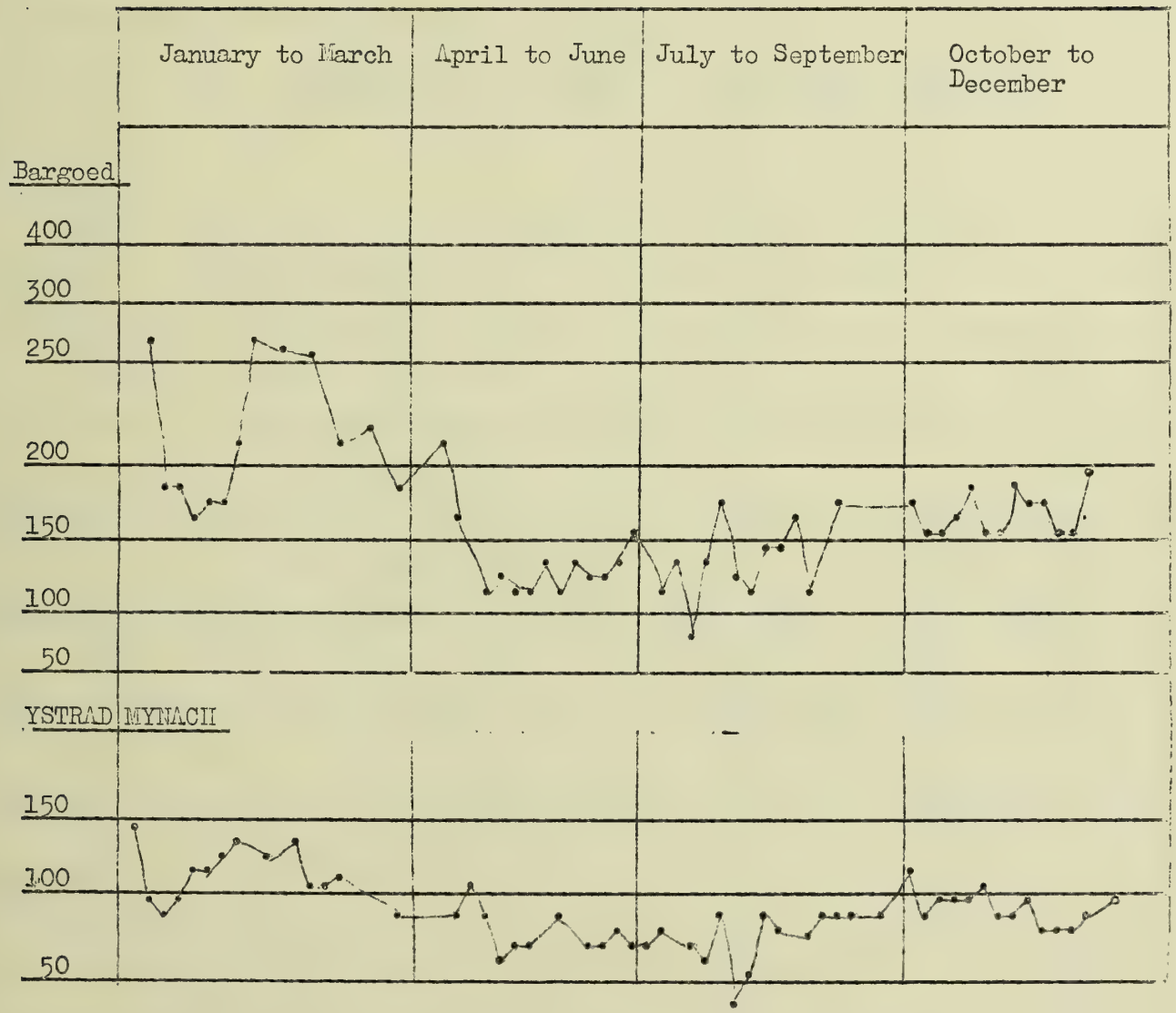
The Bargoed Luncheon Club, inaugurated by the Women's Voluntary Service, continued to give lunch on two days a week to some fifty old folk.

.....

FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON THE

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE

DURING 1964

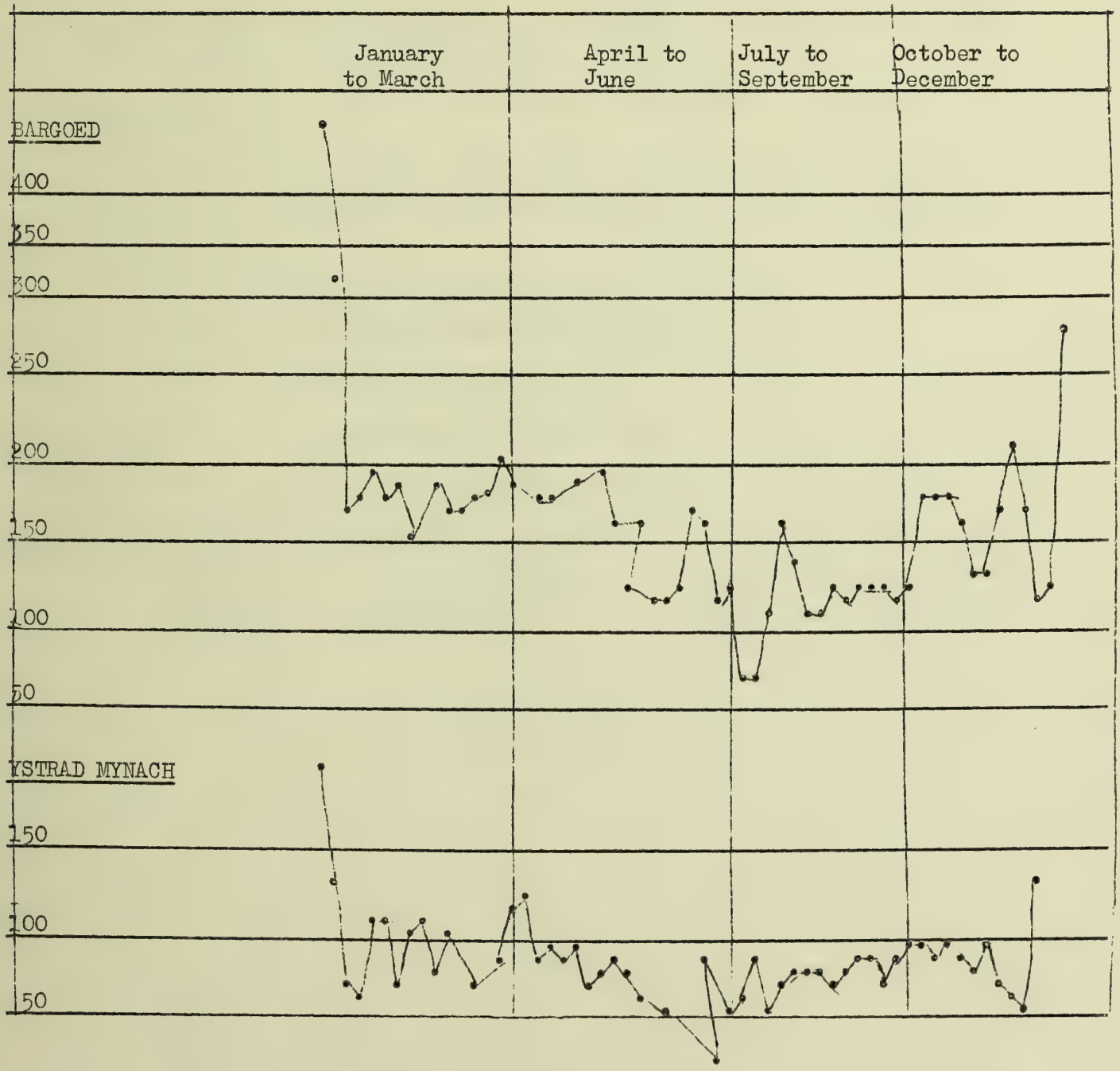


THE CHART FOR 1963 is included on the next page for comparison

FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON

THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE

DURING 1963



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The major part of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 came into force on 1st. August, 1964.

By the end of 1964, 286 premises had been registered with this Local Authority.

By the end of the year, 150 of these premises had been inspected. Of these 150, only 43 were found to be complying with all the provisions of the Act.

The main contraventions were found to be :-

(a) - No suitable thermometer provided.

(b) - No First Aid Box provided.

(c) - No running hot water provided.

The only sections of the Act which are not yet in force are -

Section 9	-	Sanitary Accommodation	- enforceable January 1966
Section 10	-	Washing Facilities	- enforceable January 1966
Section 5	-	Overcrowding	- enforceable August 1967.

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FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS
(excluding garages, bakehouses, builders' merchants)

Austin Factory , Tiryberth	-	motor car components
Cheverton and Laidler, Tiryberth	-	paper and carton manufacturers
Coal Tips and Washeries	-	Ryan and Co., National Coal Board.
Hengoed Concrete Products, Hengoed	-	Concrete Products.
Hestons, Tiryberth	-	Rubber
Hawker Bros., Pengam	-	Light Engineering
National Coal Board Collieries at Penallta, Groesfaen, Ogilvie, and Taff Merthyr Opencast Workings	-	Coal Mining
Scrap Yard, Ystrad Mynach	-	Collection of old metal and textiles.
Rhymney Engineering Works	-	Light and heavy engineering.
Welsh Dry Cleaners, Bargoed	-	Cleaning
Wendy Boston, Tiryberth	-	Toy manufacturers
Peter Williams, Bargoed	-	Printing
Woodworking Factory,Tiryberth	-	Woodworking
Western Woodcrafts, Hengoed	-	Woodworking

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1964

I present my report upon the routine work of the Department during the year 1964

During the year, among measures of major importance to Local Authorities, and particularly the Public Health Departments of Local Authorities - which received Parliamentary sanction and became law were the Housing Act, 1964, and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964, Local Authorities, if they are satisfied that any area in their district contains dwelling houses which are without one or more of the Standard Amenities, and of these houses at least half are so constructed that it is practicable to improve them to a full standard defined in the Act and will, after they have been so improved be in such a condition as to be fit for human habitation and likely to remain so for a period of not less than fifteen years, may define the area on a map and declare by resolution, that the area is an 'Improvement Area'. In the course of time all specified dwelling houses within that area must comply with specific conditions and requirements laid down by the Act. The Standard amenities are :-

(a) - a fixed bath or shower, which must be, if practicable, in a bathroom ;

(b) - a hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower, if practicable in a bathroom ;

(c) - a hot and cold water supply at a wash-hand basin ;

(d) - a hot and cold water supply at a kitchen sink ;

(e) - a water closet which must, if practicable, be readily accessible from the dwelling house ;

(f) - satisfactory facilities for storing food.

Grants will be available for owners of specified dwellings situated within these declared Improvement Areas to assist them to carry out the required work. Provision is also made for owners of such housesto increase the rental of the houses requiring improvement. The machinery of the Act is somewhat complicated and entails initial inspection of houses, estimates of the cost of the work, and the serving of Notices and follow-up Notices. Under certain circumstances, amended 'Standard amenities' may be permitted, but Local Authorities are enjoined to make every effort to insist on the higher standard if at all practicable.

There will be no change in the conditions of the Standard and Discretionary Grant Scheme as applying to owner/occupier houses, and such persons will still be encouraged to do works of improvement to houses in which they live.

I am grateful to Mr. D. W. C. Morgan, Clerk of the Council, for supplying the information that during 1964 40 Discretionary, and 26 Standard Grants were allowed by the Council,

As a matter of interest, I give below a table showing the number of grants allowed in the past five years :-

Year	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
1960	48	9
1961	24	24
1962	28	19
1963	33	24
1964	40	26
	173	102

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ROUTINE INSPECTION OF HOUSES

Routine house-to-house inspection of dwelling houses within the area was again continued throughout the year.

Individual details of several thousand houses, and no less than 103 streets which have been visited during the past few years are now on file in the Department. Up to the present, inspection has been confined to non-Council dwellings. It is, of course, a practical impossibility to keep up-to-date records of all these houses. We record prevailing conditions, giving details of overcrowding, conditions of disrepair, and existing amenities at the date of inspection.

In the 524 dwelling houses visited during 1964, conditions were found to be as follows :-

Number of houses inspected as routine	524
Number of houses without a hot water supply	125 (23.9%)
Number of houses without a fixed bath	180 (34.4%)
Number of houses without a flushing cistern to water closet ...	40 (7.6%)
Number of houses owner / occupied	192 (36.6%)
Total number of persons in residence	1732
Average number of persons per house	3 . 3

Approximate number of dwelling houses in the area is 10,000

As indicated by the Table above, dwelling houses which were privately owned, and those which were rented, were visited indiscriminantly. In all appropriate cases, occupiers were advised of the fact that Improvement Grants were available for those persons able to take advantage of them.

Apart from isolated instances, no great degree of overcrowding of houses was discovered. Where overcrowding did occur, it resulted from the natural growth of the family . In this connection, in order to cater for the larger family, the Council, on some of its housing estates, have constructed four-bedroomed houses which are especially reserved for the larger families.

In addition to the inspections mentioned above, detailed inspections were carried out in connection with the Council's schemes of Slum Clearance at Pontlottyn, and by the end of the year substantial progress had taken place in the construction of dwellings planned to co-incide with this phasing.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE

As a result of complaints received	876
In connection with housing repairs	493

VISITS MADE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

To dirty and verminous premises	33
As a result of notifiable disease	9
To Schools	62
To Piggeries and Smallholdings	31
To premises without a main water supply	29
To moveable dwellings	19
To Cinemas and places of entertainment	39
To Licensed Premises, including Clubs	79
To Premises conducting Offensive Trades	12
To Refuse Tips and Ashtips	97
To rear lanes	115

INSPECTIONS MADE UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 AND FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955 - 1960

To Dairy Premises	41
To Grocery Establishments	147
To Cafes and Restaurants	111
To Factories and Bakehouses	83
To Butchers' Shops	139
To Industrial and School Canteens	57
To Ice Creameries	33
To Licensed Houses	94
To Fish Friers and Fish Restaurants	37

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS

The total number of visits made was 1,144.

In company with Mr. G. Lloyd Williams, the Council's Housing Manager, visits of inspection to Council houses were made as and when thought necessary and desirable. Visits actually made were :-

(a) - As a result of direct instruction from the Housing Committee, or as a result of complaints from neighbours or other interested persons to houses where the required standard of cleanliness was not being maintained, or was in danger of deteriorating.

(b) - To dirty and verminous dwelling houses, or houses which were troubled with infestation by insect pests such as ants and cockroaches.

(c) - To tenants who misuse or abuse the dwellings they occupy.

(d) - For the inspection of premises occupied by prospective Council tenants with, where necessary, disinfection or disinfestation of premises and furniture.

HOUSING ACTS 1957 and 1961 and LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1953

Mr. D. W. C. Morgan, Clerk of the Council, has again furnished the following information on Closure and Demolition of houses during the year :-

Number of houses on which Demolition Orders were made individually	- nil
Number of Closing Orders made involving the whole of the premises	- 1
Number of Closing Orders made involving part of the premises	- nil
Number of Closing Orders revoked following undertakings by the owners being accepted by the Council	- Nil
Number of families rehoused by the Council as a result of Closing or Demolition Orders	- 1
Total number of persons rehoused	- 8

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT 1954 and the Rent Act 1957

Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair	- nil
Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted	- nil
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	- nil
Number of Undertakings by owners accepted by the Council	- nil
Number of applications for Revocation of Certificate	- 1
Number of Certificates revoked by the Council	- nil
Number of applications for Certificate of Disrepair refused	- nil
Number of visits made to premises by Public Health Inspectors in connection with Certificates of Disrepair	- 17

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS 1947 - 52

There are, within the Urban Area, 151 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream. These are cafes, restaurants, grocers, and even licensed premises such as Clubs and Public Houses, in addition to the small corner or front-room type shops. Many of these latter, however, have now been squeezed out of business, or operate sporadically, due to the intense competition now prevailing in the sale of ice-cream, especially in the summer months when consumption of this commodity is at its maximum.

There are 11 premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Sample of ice-cream were taken regularly during the year for laboratory examination, the results for 1964 being as follows :-.

Total number of samples taken for examination	-	33
Number showing a satisfactory result	-	26
Number showing an unsatisfactory result	-	7

Samples which show an unsatisfactory result are repeated until a satisfactory result is obtained. Only occasionally is 'Loose' ice-cream found for sale, and then always from gallon sized cans which can be kept under refrigeration. All the popular varieties are pre-packed at the time of manufacture, and are required to be kept at a low temperature until sold to the customer. Many mobile vans, some coming from far afield, circulate in the area during periods of favourable weather, some of them being fitted with expensive machinery which manufactures ice-cream as and when trading conditions demand.

WATER SUPPLY

A piped water supply is provided to the great majority of dwellings houses in the Urban Area. In fact, only a very small percentage of isolated cottages and hill-top farms remain unconnected to the main supply, and have to rely on rain water and mountain streams and springs. In not one instance is any dwelling dependant on a deep or shallow well for its domestic water supply.

Complaints of inadequate water pressure to kitchen taps are occasionally received from the village of Brithdir. These are always referred to the Rhymney Valley Water Board who co-operate most helpfully in efforts to improve the existing supply. Many of the domestic supply pipes to the houses at Brithdir are old, and very badly corroded internally, and the Water Board advise that in cases of this nature the only permanent solution is the renewal of the supply pipes which serve the houses.

While a large number of houses in the area are not supplied with running hot water, this number is being reduced annually by the installation of gas and electric heaters over the kitchen sink. These fittings ensure that hot water is available for the ordinary household chores.

During the year, four samples of water were submitted for Bacteriological and Chemical analysis. Three of these samples proved to be satisfactory

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 and
FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955 - 60

Principal food premises in the Gelligaer Area are as follows :-

Butchers' Shops	-	39
Ice Cream Manufacturers'	-	11
Ice Cream Vendors	-	151
Bakehouses	-	7
Grocery Stores	-	114
Cafes and Restaurants	-	24
Fish and Chip Shops	-	18
Public Houses and Clubs	-	62

In addition, there are also a large number of lock-up front room, or parlour type shops which retail various kinds of foodstuffs, and all kinds of miscellaneous commodities and articles.

Twenty five premises are registered within the Area under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 as premises which are used for the manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. These foods consist mainly of meat by-products such as sausages, meat pies and pasties, cooked hams and brawns.

All food premises receive regular visits in order to enforce the requirements of the Food and Drugs Acts, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, which is a Statutory duty of the Authority. Food manufacturers and food handlers generally co-operate readily in what is essentially a team effort to provide the customers with their requirements in the most clean and hygienic manner possible. Almost every conceivable type of foodstuff today is prepacked before sale. Shop premises, equipment, and shop fittings have made enormous strides in recent years to this end, until today it is only a matter of common sense and sound hygienic practice to attain the standards demanded.

Cases of unhygienic practice and of gross contamination of foodstuffs still occur, however, and among instances brought to the attention of the Department during the year were the following :-

(a) - Meat pies affected internally with mould due to staleness of meat content.

(b) - Bacon affected by maggots.

(c) - Milk bottles contaminated by strong smelling substances such as oil or petrol.

(d) - Cooked canned meat affected by mould.

(e) - A tin of corned beef containing a portion of animal hide.

Food Supplies

All articles of food which are found, on examination, to be unfit for human consumption are disposed of by incineration or, where that is not practicable, by collection by the Council's Refuse lorries with subsequent deep burial in one of the Council's Refuse tips ; or, after complete and prolonged boiling so as to ensure satisfactory sterilisation, utilised as animal feeding stuffs.

Items so disposed of during 1964 included the following :-

Fresh Meat - 562 lbs. Beef ; 129 lbs. Mutton ; 339 lbs. Pork ; 41 lbs. Faggots.

Canned Foods - 141 lbs. Corned Beef ; 84 lbs. Cooked Beef ; 34 lbs. Luncheon Meat ;
76 lbs. Veal ; 287 lbs. Ham ; 12 lbs. Pork ;
209 Lbs. Tomatoes ; 42 lbs. Plums ; 79 lbs. Peaches ;
35 lbs. Grapes ; 107 lbs. Pears ; 59 lbs. Apricots ;
31 lbs. Pineapple ; 18 lbs. Tongue; 42 lbs. Pluns;

Poultry - 51 lbs. Turkey ; 62 lbs. Fowls ;

Fresh and Canned Fish - 46 lbs. Hake ; 11 lbs. Salmon ; 16 lbs. Pilchards ;
9 lbs. Herrings.

Miscellaneous - 17 lbs. Beans ; 5 lbs. Fruit Pudding ; 22 lbs. Stew ;
21 lbs. Milk ; 6 lbs. Cream ;

Total weight of all food found to be unfit for human consumption was :-

1 ton , 2 cwts., 5 lbs.

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MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND REGULATIONS 1949 - 1959

Milk is produced in 53 farms in the area. The major portion of this is taken in churns to central points from whence it is collected by the Pasturising Plants with operate outside the area. Since 1961, the Licensing Authority for the retailing of all grades of milk has been vested in the Food and Drugs Authority, which for this area is the Glamorgan County Council. The responsibility for milk sampling also falls on the Glamorgan County Council.

Complaints, apart from the occasional misuse of milk bottles were few. There were no complaints concerning the quality of milk itself. With regard to the misuse of milk bottles, it is interesting to note that with the greater variety of materials used in food packing, more use is now being made of non-returnable containers for milk, particularly for milk supplied to schoolchildren. One of these containers, known as 'Tetrapak' milk carton is plastic lined, with an 'eye' in the top corner of the carton formed by cutting a small circle of the carton so as to reveal the polythene inner lining. By using a reasonably stiff drinking straw this can be pierced, giving easy access to the milk.

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SCHOOL CANTEENS

One school, and school kitchen, at Bute Town in the northern part of the Urban Area closed down during the year, due to lack of pupils. Regular visits were made to the remaining 31 schools, and the 21 school kitchens which produce mid-day meals for approximately 4,000 pupils each day of the school year.

For those schools which have no available kitchen facilities, hot meals are conveyed in insulated stainless steel containers from a centrally situated kitchen .

A new school kitchen, and extension to the dining hall of Lewis' Boys' School at Pengam was nearing completion at the end of the year. This will greatly relieve the very cramped conditions formerly existing at this school.

Once again, as in previous reports, tribute must be paid to the cooks and their kitchen staffs for their efforts in preparing such a large number of meals for so many hungry people, and for the clean and hygienic manner in which the kitchens and food preparations rooms are kept.

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SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933 - 1958

Ten persons are licensed by the Council as Slaughtermen.

All fresh meat consumed in the area is conveyed from other districts, such as Maesycwmmer, Brynmawr, Cardiff, or Newport where the Slaughterhouses are situated. Meat imported from abroad is distributed from cold stores and warehouses in the Cardiff and Newport areas.

During 1964, ten cottagers' pigs were slaughtered within the area, mainly at Christmas time, for consumption by their owners.

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BYE-LAWS - HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

On January 1st., 1964, for the very first time, Bye-laws in connection with Hairdressres' and Barbers' Establishments in the area came into force. All 39 known businesses, some of these being in front rooms of private houses, were visited and provided with a printed copy of the Bye-laws, and given a brief verbal outline of what they contained. Infringements of the new Byelaws entail a fine on conviction at a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

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LICENSING ACTS 1961 - 64

Licensed Houses and Clubs

There are 62 Licensed Premises within the Urban Area, made up of :-

34 Public Houses
28 Licensed Clubs.

One Public House closed during 1964.

As in past years, visits of inspection were made to these premises in order to ensure that the required hygienic standards were properly maintained. These visits were made both when the premises were closed to the general public, and during licensing hours. During the past few years, there has been marked improvements carried out at most of the Licensed Clubs in the area, both hygienically and from the standard of amenities and comforts of the Club Members. Some improvements have also been carried out at a few Public Houses by the Managing Breweries which control them.

Infringements of the Acts or Regulations discovered during routine inspection are notified to the Brewery Company, or, in the case of a Club, to the Secretary of the Committee concerned. Inspections, especially in the case of Club premises, are invariably welcomed by the Management. Despite the cordial relationship existing however, it was necessary during the year to point out the need for remedial action in connection with the following defects :-

(a) - To provide new, or repair the existing, surfaces of counters and shelves.
(b) - Requiring the repair or replacement of defective water pipes and flushing cisterns.
(c) - Pointing out the need for painting or redecoration of walls and ceilings to rooms.
(d) - Requiring the repair of floors, and the thorough cleansing of walls and ceilings of sanitary conveniences.

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OFFENSIVE TRADES

Two premises, one at Bargoed and one at Ystrad Mynach, are engaged in business under the classification of 'Offensive Trades'. At both these premises only old and discarded clothing and other textiles, and iron and scrap metals are collected and stored while awaiting transport to the main collecting mills and depots.

The Area is extremely fortunate in that a large specialist firm dealing in animal bones and waste meat products operates only a few miles away. This firm collects three times weekly from all butchers' shops in the area, subsequently converting such materials into animal feeding stuffs, agricultural fertilisers, and glues in a most expeditious and comparatively inoffensive manner as far as the general public is concerned.

The problem of disposing of old and unwanted motor vehicles in a satisfactory manner so as not to infringe the requirements of the Litter Act still persists, and tends to show signs of increasing. In the last Annual Report mention was made of the fact that Government action was being contemplated in this matter. The Minister has now issued a directive to all Local Authorities on this nation wide problem. The Management of the premises dealing with scrap collection at Ystrad Mynach, mentioned above, has informed me that they are prepared to accept and dispose of old car bodies. Opportunity is therefore taken to give publicity to this fact, in the hope that the motoring public will take notice of it, and that as a result will play some part in assisting to ' Keep Britain Tidy'.

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CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Caravans, particularly of the itinerant type, continue to be a source of trouble to Local Authorities and their Officers. Four caravan sites have been approved for licensing by the Authority, the largest of these sites being for 40 caravans ; the smallest being for one caravan.

Periodic inspections were made during the year to all the caravan sites so that the Model Byelaws which apply could be seen to be complied with. Overcrowding of caravan dwellings is occasionally bound to be met with, especially in the itinerant caravan, where the model Byelaws and reasonably hygienic conditions are most difficult to enforce.

The large collection of caravans, which had collected on an unauthorised site at Cefn Hengoed, where at one time there were more than 38 caravans, has been finally cleared, some of the occupiers having been rehoused by the Council.

The occupiers of unauthorised caravans are gently pressed to return whence they came. All mobile dwellings are visited regularly in an effort to see that they receive adequate supervision.

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FACTORIES ACTS 1937 - 1961

There are 86 Factories of various sizes and types in the area. Among these are factories engaged in light and heavy engineering, building sites and ancilliary works, Motor car component manufacturing, radio and television repair, woodworking, and the maunfacture of electrical goods. These are classified as follows :-.

To which Sections 2,3,4,5,6, 7 of the Act apply (Mechanical)	-	83
To which Section 7 of the Act only applies (non-mechanical)	-	3

Number of factory inspections made during the year was 173.

There are 31 persons employed as Outworkers. Some of these are Old Age or widows living alone, having sons or daughters working in the factory which employs them as outworkers. The work entailed is very light in nature, consisting mainly in the trimming and dressing of small moulded rubber articles, or minor alterations to personal clothing.

During the year, 6 notices were served upon owners or persons responsible directing attention to infringements of the Acts or Regulations -

(a) - In three cases requiring the proper cleaning of walls and windows, and redecoration of internal walls.

(b) - In two cases pointing out the need for adequate lighting to sanitary conveniences

(c) - In one case requiring the provision of appropriate notices in a food factory.

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RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

The work concerned with the destruction of rodents, and the eradication of insect pests generally proceeded unceasingly throughout the year. Figures tabulated below give some indication of the amount of work involved, together with details of visits made to premises and other places frequented by these pests .

	Number inspected.	Number treated.	Visits made
Dwelling Houses	473	417	749
Business premises	35	19	83
Farm and Agricultural Holdings	46	3	54
Rivers, Brooks and Culverts	15	15	47
Refuse Tips	6	6	39

In the Spring and Autumn of the year, the bi-annual treatment of all sewers in the district took place with the full co-operation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The rat population in sewers is kept in reasonable proportions by this twice yearly treatment.

With the redevelopment taking place at Pontlottyn, and the consequent renewal of some of the oldest parts of the sewerage system, it is anticipated that less complaints of this nature will be received from this particular area.

Most complaints received in connection with rodents concerned the presence of rats rather than mice. Once again, it is regretted to have to report that many of these infestations are caused through the carelessness and anti-social habits of some people in disposing of refuse and rubbish in back lanes, on waste ground, and any other spot convenient to themselves, and without regard to the ills they cause to their neighbours, or to the community. This habit on the part of a small minority is a blot on the whole neighbourhood, and can only be effectively cured by the offenders themselves.

During the year, 14 dwelling houses were disinfested for vermin, a service performed by the Department for which, in the case of private dwelling houses, a small charge is made to cover the expense involved.

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GENERAL HYGIENE

Many complaints were received from time to time of the deposit of dust and dirt on roadways used by large lorries which convey coal and colliery waste to their disposal points. Many thousands of tons of this material are moved in this manner. During periods of dry weather, serious nuisance is caused to residents occupying roadside houses, and the Public Health Department was engaged for many hours in an attempt to alleviate the dust nuisance caused.

Vandalism is till present in the area. In the public conveniences, windows are broken, bolts and locks torn from the doors, and tiles torn from the walls. It is difficult to understand the mentality of people who behave in this manner.

Yours faithfully,

T. P. THOMAS

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.